



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray addresses Air Force trainees of the 326th Training Squadron at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, before presenting

each of them the new Airman handbook. The handbook is a pocket-sized book that covers heritage, national leaders, Air Force operations and a variety of military-related topics.

Murray launches inaugural edition of Airman handbook

LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — If Airman Basic **Rachel Redel** ever forgets who presented her with one of the first two copies of the Airman Air Force Handbook 1, she can find the answer on Page 15: “Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force, **Gerald R. Murray**.”

If the 23-year-old basic trainee is curious about what her occupational badge will look like when she graduates basic training and later completes 27 weeks of technical training at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., she can check it out on Page 210: “Career Fields, Occupational Badges, Explosive Ordnance Disposal.”

That was the intent of Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. **John P. Jumper**,

who conceived the idea for a pocket-sized book offering new Air Force accessions — officers, enlisted and civilians — everything they need to know to pass “Air Force 101.”

General Jumper’s vision came to fruition Jan. 31 when Chief Murray, the Air Force’s top enlisted Airman, dropped in on a classroom of basic trainees to personally present the first two copies to Airman Redel and Airman Basic **Thomas Collins Jr.**

The blue paperback handbook offers “big pictures” and little words to blend together the four pillars of the Air Force: character, honor, personal integrity and patriotism throughout its 360 pages.

Chief Murray encouraged the basic

trainees to use the handbook as a means of continually increasing their overall knowledge.

“The more you learn about this great Air Force, the more doors it opens up,” he said.

The handbook includes a broad expanse of military information broken into six sections, covering topics such as “Air Force Top 10 Aces,” “Air Force Vocabulary,” “CONOPS” and “Medal of Honor Recipients.” The handbook was developed by the Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

*Master Sgt. Chuck Roberts
Air Force Print News*